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Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 03412 231646Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-05 ACDA-12 /120 W
----------089837 240157Z /23
R 231618Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6574
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USNATO
EC COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 3412

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: IS, DA, IVIP (DAYAN, MOSHE)
SUBJ: DANISH PRESS COMMENTARY ON ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN'S VISIT TO DENMARK

REF: (A) COPENHAGEN 3261; (B) COPENHAGEN 3325

1. AS PROMISED REFTEL A, WE ARE TRANSMITTING THE MORE SIGNIFICANT PRESS COMMENTARY COVERING ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN'S VISIT TO DENMARK, MAY 16-18.

2. THE OVERALL IMPRESSION CONVEYED BY THE PRESS WAS ONE OF DISAPPOINTMENT ON THE DANISH SIDE THAT DAYAN HAD BEEN SO CLOSED IN HIS VIEWS AND SO UNWILLING TO

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LISTEN TO THE DANES AND TO THE OTHER NORDINCS. AKTUELT (SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC) STATED THAT "THE IMPRESSION FROM DAYAN'S VISIT TO NORWAY, SWEDEN, FINLAND AND DENMARK IS THAT IT IS NOW EGYPT WHICH WANTS RE-CONCILIATION. ISRAEL IS RATHER UNINTERESTED IN PEACE ON CONDITIONS WHICH SEEM REASONABLE TO NEARLY EVERYONE ELSE BUT TO THE CURRENT CONSERVATIVE

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GOVERNMENT IN RSRAEL." AKUTLT CONCLUDED THAT
DAYAN'S NORDIC TOUR WAS A "PARTLY UNSUCCESSFUL
CHARM OFFENSIVE".

3. POLITIKEN (ONE OF COPENHAGEN'S LEADING SERIOUS
DAILIES) DESCRIBED DAYAN'S VISIT AS "A POLITICAL
DUD"N ATTRIBUTING PART OF THE FAULT TO DAYAN'S
ALOOFNESS AND LACK OF SOCIAL GRACES.

4. REPRESENTATIVE OF OTHER EDITORIALS, COPENHAGEN'S
KRISTELIGT DAGBLADET, WROTE THAT "ISRAEL MUST UNDER-
STAND THAT ITS FRIENDS ARE NOT SEEKING A FORWARD-
LOOKING POLICY TO PLEASE THE ARABS, BUT SIMPLY TO
PROMOTE PEACE IN AN AREA WHICH HAS KNOWN WAR FOR
30 YEARS. WHEN DENMARK PUTS PRESSURE ON ISRAEL,
IT IS TO PROMOTE PEACE ALSO ON ISRAEL'S BEHALF.
SUCH THINGS MUST BE SAID BETWEEN FRIENDS EVEN WHEN
THEY SOUND UNPLEASANT".

5. ONLY CONSERVATIVE JYLLANDS POSTEN, THE LEADING
PAPER OUTSIDE COPENHGEN, CRITICIZED THE DANISH
GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE OF PRESSING ISRAEL
TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING IN NEGOTIATING INITIATIVES.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978COPENH03412
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780218-0094
Format: TEL
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780530/aaaaazhw.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 749f0799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 COPENHAGEN 3261, 78 COPENHAGEN 3325
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2609085
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DANISH PRESS COMMENTARY ON ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN\'S VISIT TO DENMARK
TAGS: OVIP, IS, DA, (DAYAN, MOSHE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/749f0799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
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